

In August I acquired a receipt from Ferguson, Shaw & Sons, Glasgow which was a new identity for F3910.01 - FSS 8,10,10 4½mm. The date on this receipt was March 1925. The 'F' had 9 out of the 10 as blind holes. There was also an account with this receipt which had a very informative bill head. More of this anon.

In October I picked up another receipt from this firm and thought I had found another new identity. The perfin appeared to be "SS" as S6410.01a. The date on this receipt was Oct' 1924. Although there appears no sign of the 'F', the two 'S's' are identical to the 'S's' in F3910.01. This leads me to ask is S6410.01a a partial of F3910.01. Has anyone an identified cover of S6410.01a - there is no entry for this in Tomkins.

Along with this last receipt, I bought another one from 'THE GLENIFFER SOAP CO., PAISLEY.' For some unexplainable reason this too had the FSS perfin and the 1d EVII was dated Dec' 1907. It was not until I put all these three receipts together that the reason for the FSS perfin on a Gleniffer Soap Co. receipt became apparent. On the fancy bill head, mentioned in the first paragraph, I read the following:-

"Ferguson, Shaw & Sons, contractors to the Admiralty and War Office; Manufacturers of all Kinds of Hard & Soft Soaps; Tallow Melters and Refiners; Aucarine Motor Oil and Greases; Manufacturers of all variety of Machinery, Marine Engine and Cylinder Oils; Importers and Refiners of Seal, Cod, Whale & Fish Oils; Address Imperial Oil Works, Scott Street, Port Dundas, Glasgow and at GLENIFFER SOAP WORKS, PAISLEY."

This small story made me say to myself, "You silly !!!"
On quite a number of occasions I have refused to buy a cover or trade card because the perfin did not appear to match the user and so I thought it was an illegal use of another firms' perfin. From now on I shall not be quite so sceptical.

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